



For more information call 441-7895 or visit: lincoln.ne.gov
Keyword: Nature

Putting people in touch with nature for forty-one years 1963-2004

HOURS:

September - May

Monday - Saturday: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
 Sunday: Noon - 5:00 pm

June - August

Monday - Saturday: 8:30 am - 8:30 pm
 Sunday: Noon - 8:30 pm

Located in the southwest corner of Pioneers Park, the Nature Center includes 400 acres. More than 8 miles of trails are open to the public for hiking, bird watching, photography, and other phases of nature study. Exhibits and activities interpreting the natural history of the area are housed in the Chet Ager Building (CAB) south of the parking lot and in the Prairie Building (PB) west of the parking lot. Electric carts are available for the use of those who experience difficulty walking. The Nature Center is a designated "Watchable Wildlife Area."

Malinovskis Auditorium

Meeting Room: Located on a hill overlooking prairie and pond, your organization can rent the Nature Center's Malinovskis Auditorium as a retreat/conference center, a meeting room away from the hustle and bustle of the city. Audio/visual equipment, a kitchenette and flexible seating are available.

Overnights: Experience nature up-close in this unique overnight program! Staff naturalists can guide your group in various nature exploration activities including night and morning hikes. Groups sleep in the Auditorium slumber-party style. This program is ideal for scout groups working on their advancement requirements and badges.

Wilderness Park

1st and Park Blvd. to 27th and Saltillo

This 1,475 acre linear park is open year round, sunrise to sunset. Trails are provided in Wilderness Park for your enjoyment and appreciation of Lincoln's most natural park. Wilderness Park is a designated "Watchable Wildlife Area."

Hyde Memorial Observatory

Holmes Park (SW Corner of Park)

On clear nights at the Observatory, people of all ages can observe stars, planets, and deep sky objects through three powerful telescopes. Sky interpretation and astronomy programs are given by expert astronomers every Saturday night from sundown to 11:00 p.m., April through September, and 7:00 - 10:00 p.m., October through March. Other viewing times for groups, schools, or organizations of 20 or more may be arranged with two weeks notice. All of these programs are free.

Call 441-7895 weekdays to schedule reservations.

Call 441-7094 for current sky information.

Pioneers Park Nature Center Classes & Events

Registration: Many Nature Center programs require advance reservations – please use the form found on Page 31. **All reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.** Send payment and completed registration form to:

Pioneers Park Nature Center
 2740 A Street, Lincoln, NE 68502

Telephone registrations by credit card only (charge must be at least \$10).

Participants will receive confirmation of registration.

Deadline: Unless noted otherwise, registration deadline is one week prior to the start of the program.

Refunds: Refund requests must be made 72 hours prior to the program date and are subject to a \$5.00 service charge.

Cancellations: PPNC reserves the right to cancel classes due to conditions beyond its control. Participants will be notified prior to the program; they may choose to obtain a full refund or sign up for another available program.

Community Outreach Programs

Entertaining and educational, Pioneers Park Nature Center presentations are of interest to many groups. These interactive nature programs can be presented to adults and/or children in almost any setting. Topics include Birds, Reptiles, Insects and Lifecycles, and Prairie Plants. Other topics can be covered on request. Fees are \$35 per program, plus mileage, and are limited to the Lincoln area. Pre-payment is required.

Informational programs about the Nature Center are also available and are free of charge.

Call 441-7895 to schedule a program.

School Programs

Pioneers Park Nature Center offers a variety of school programs about our natural world. Under the guidance of experienced staff, students develop awareness, appreciation, and curiosity about nature. On-site programs are available free of charge to all Lincoln schools but must be booked at least two weeks in advance. **Call 441-7895 for more information or to request a brochure.**

Nature Center Gift Shop

Are you looking for a unique gift? The Nature Center gift shop carries a variety of T-shirts, children's books, puppets, and other items, all with a nature theme. It also stocks excellent resource materials for the inquisitive mind. Located in the Prairie Building, the hours are the same as the Nature Center's. Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

Friends of Pioneers Park Nature Center

Become a member and help support the development and operation of the Nature Center! Benefits include a quarterly newsletter, special programming, 10% off Nature Center Gift Shop items, and free admission to reciprocating Nature Centers.

Call 441-7895 for a brochure.

nature center **Everyone**

Free Guided Hikes

Sep - Dec every Sat & Sun 2:00 pm CAB
 Join a naturalist-guided free walk focusing on seasonal topics along various trails of the Nature Center. No reservations necessary. However, groups of eight or more are asked to call in advance. Hikes are held if five or more people are interested.

Sep 4-5	Verley Trail Hike
Sep 11-12	Spider Spin
Sep 18-19	Martin Prairie Trail Hike
Sep 25-26	Harrington Trail Hike
Oct 2-3	Bird Migration
Oct 9-10	Fall Color
Oct 16-17	Fleming Woods Hike
Oct 23-24	Animal Homes Hunt
Oct 30-31	Our Spooky? Friends - Owls and Bats
Nov 6-7	Insects in Winter
Nov 13-14	Leaf Litter - Who's There?
Nov 20-21	Turkey Trot
Nov 27-28	Signs of Winter
Dec 4-5	Raptors of the Nature Center
Dec 11-12	Animal Adaptations
Dec 18-19	Winter Solstice
Dec 26	Bison - Prepared for the Cold

Hayrack Rides

Pioneers Park Nature Center is offering nature-oriented hayrack rides in Pioneers Park again this fall. Available between September 16 through October 23, you may choose among a variety of options:

Family Hayracks: Enjoy a hayrack ride, a campfire with naturalist program, and hot cocoa. \$5/person. Not recommended for children two and under.

Available Dates:

Saturday, September 18, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
 Friday, September 24, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
 Friday, September 24, 8:30 - 10:00 pm
 Saturday, October 2, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
 Friday, October 8, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
 Friday, October 8, 8:30 - 10:00 pm
 Saturday, October 9, 8:30 - 10:00 pm
 Saturday, October 16, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
 Friday, October 22, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
 Friday, October 22, 8:30 - 10:00 pm
 Saturday, October 23, 8:30 - 10:00 pm

To register fill out the program registration form found on Page 31.

Group Hayracks: Reserve the whole hayrack for your group. The evening program includes a ride, a campfire with optional naturalist program, and hot cocoa. \$130/group. 30 persons maximum.

Special Event Hayracks: Do you have a large group that would enjoy a fun evening program with a nature emphasis? Schedule a hayrack ride with campfire program for up to 200 people. Thursday evenings, or other evenings by request. \$225 for one activity, \$25 each additional activity. Special requests considered.

All group and special event rides require pre-registration and pre-payment. Call 441-7895 for available dates and to register. The hayrack is handicapped accessible.

Bird Banding Demonstrations

This is your opportunity to see up close some of the migratory birds that pass through our area as well as our year round residents. Join a licensed bird bander to watch the banding process and to learn about this nation-wide research project. In case of rain or excessive heat, banding will be cancelled. No registration necessary.

Dates: Saturdays, October 2, 9, & 16 Time: 9 am - Noon
 Location: CAB Fee: Free

Primitive Shelter

Learn to build a natural shelter by actually constructing a debris hut. Light duty gloves recommended, a small rake and tarp useful. Dress for the weather.

Date: Saturday, November 6 Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm
 Location: CAB Fee: \$6/person

Registration deadline: November 3

Primitive Rope Making

Learn rope making as it was done by indigenous cultures. The class will include simple wrap and reverse wrap techniques using natural fibers found in the woods or prairie.

Date: Saturday, November 13 Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm
 Location: PC Fee: \$6/person

Registration deadline: November 10

Movement & Observation in Nature

How would you like to learn to move with the flow of nature? Would you rather watch a deer grazing, or see it running from you to hide? In this class we will learn primitive walking techniques and stalking skills as done by indigenous cultures for centuries. IMPORTANT! Please dress in clothes that you can get dirty.

Date: Saturday, November 20 Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm
 Location: PC Fee: \$6/person

Registration deadline: November 17



This Halloween come to the Pioneers Park Nature Center for a family oriented night hike where you will encounter costumed critters.

**Popcorn and cider at trails end.
 Thursday, Friday, and Saturday
 October 28, 29, and 30**

\$5.00/person, registration form on Page 31.

nature center **Children**

Critter Tales

Explore the wonderful world of nature with your pre-school children through stories and related activities. Groups of 8 or more children are asked to pre-register.

Dates: Mondays, Sep 20, Oct 4 & 18, Nov 1 & 15, & Dec 6
Time: 10:00 - 10:30 am Location: PB
Fee: \$.50/child

NEW! Mad Hatter's Tea Party (Ages 4-8)

If you are 4 to 8 years old you are cordially invited to a holiday tea party. A storyteller will take you back to holiday celebrations of both Christmas and Hanukkah in early settler times. You will play a game, make a period craft, and decorate a cookie. We will end our party with cookies and apple juice "tea".

Date: Saturday, December 4 Time: 10:00 - 11:30 am
Location: PC Fee: \$8/child

Registration deadline: December 1

Winter Survival Camp

January 17 - 19

A three-day nature camp for grades 1 - 5. Build a primitive shelter, track animals, learn how to read nature's weather signs, and investigate what humans and animals do to survive the cold. Perform experiments each day that are connected with survival, nature's adaptations, or insights into cold weather.

9:00 am - 4:00 pm, extended hours available
\$75/child, \$10 early registration discount

**Call 441-7895
for more information and an application**

Add Some Nature to Your Birthday

Treat your child to a special birthday at the Nature Center. An hour nature program, including a hike and indoor animal time, is followed by 45 minutes in the building for your birthday activities. We provide space and a birthday favor for each child, and you provide refreshments. Themes include Insect Insights, Reptiles for Fun, or Birds that Whoop Who. \$50 for 10 children, \$5 for each additional child, 15 children maximum.

Call 441-7895 for reservations at least two weeks in advance.

NEW! Wild and Free

Nature's harvest yields many interesting surprises. Learn what's safe to eat and what to avoid even though it looks tempting. Enjoy wild refreshments to top off the session.

Date: Saturday, September 18 Time: 9:30 - 11:00 am
Location: PC Fee: \$7/person

Registration deadline: September 15

Off-Site Adult Programming

Nature Center teacher/naturalists can bring a variety of programs to your group. Choose among slide shows on birds, the prairie, or informational programs on backyard bird feeding, patio herb gardening, or featuring one of the Nature Center live animals. The fee for each presentation is \$35. Call 441-7895 for more information or to schedule a program.

30 Advertisement Supplement to the Lincoln Journal Star, September 12, 2004

Nature Center Preschool

"Where Kids Explore"



We nurture a sense of wonder, and investigate nature themes through hikes, crafts, story times and discussion circles.

Spaces still available for the 2004-05 school year.

Ages 3 to 5

Wednesday/Friday Sessions
9:00-11:30 a.m. - \$70/month

12:30-2:30 p.m. - \$55/month

Call 441-7895 for a brochure

nature center **Adult/Child Teams**

Build a Bird Feeder (Ages 6 - 12 with an adult)

Adult and child teams will construct three wild bird feeders complete with feed. Tips on successful backyard bird feeding will be covered. All materials provided, along with informational handouts and a basic bird identification chart. Each team should bring a hammer.

Date: Saturday, September 25 Time: 9:30-11:00 am
Location: PC Fee: \$10/child

Registration deadline: September 22

nature center **Adults**

Pioneers Park History Hayrack Rides

Ride the Nature Center hayrack through Pioneers Park and learn the history of the park and its sculptures. A snack will be provided. This ride is specially for individuals in wheelchairs and their guests. *Meet at Pioneers Park Concession Stand

Date: Friday, September 24 Time: 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Location: *See above Fee: \$7/person

Registration Deadline: September 20

Pioneers Park Nature Center Program Registration Form (Fall 2004)

Registration: All reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Telephone registrations by credit card only (charge must be at least \$10). Participants will receive confirmation of registration.

Deadline: Unless noted otherwise, registration deadline is three days prior to the start of the program.

Refunds: Refund requests must be made 72 hours prior to the program date and are subject to a \$5.00 service charge.

Cancellations: PPNC reserves the right to cancel classes due to conditions beyond its control. Participants will be notified prior to the program; they may choose to obtain a full refund or sign up for another available program.

Name(s) _____

Day Phone _____

Evening Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail Address (optional method for confirmation):

Payment: CHECK
(made payable to Lincoln Parks & Recreation)

CREDIT CARD
(total must be \$10 or more)

_____ card number _____ expiration date

_____ signature

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please complete form and mail with payment to:
Pioneers Park Nature Center
2740 'A' Street
Lincoln, NE 68502



Spooktacular (\$5/person, 3 yrs. & under free)
Persons Registering _____

Available dates and times:

Thursday, October 28; 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00

Friday, October 29; 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00

Saturday, October 30; 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00

First preference (date) _____, (time) _____

Second preference (date) _____, (time) _____

You will receive confirmation of date and time.

Specially for Scouts (\$5/scout, leaders free)

Date	Badge	# Registering
Oct 2	Watching Wildlife(GS)	_____
Oct 9	Forester (Weblelos)	_____
Oct 16	Forester (Weblelos)	_____
Nov 13	Wildlife (Junior GS)	_____

Family Hayrack Rides (\$5/person)

Date	Time	# Registering
Sep 18	6:30	_____
Sep 24	6:30	_____
Sep 24	8:30	_____
Oct 2	6:30	_____
Oct 8	6:30	_____
Oct 8	8:30	_____
Oct 9	8:30	_____
Oct 16	6:30	_____
Oct 22	6:30	_____
Oct 22	8:30	_____
Oct 23	8:30	_____

Classes

Date	Class	Fee	# Registering
Sep 18	Wild & Free	\$7/person	_____
Sep 24	History Hayrack	\$7/person	_____
Sep 25	Build a Bird Feeder	\$10/child	_____
Nov 6	Primitive Shelter	\$6/person	_____
Nov 6	Primitive Rope Making	\$6/person	_____
Nov 20	Observing Skills	\$6/person	_____
Dec 4	Mad Hatter's Tea Party	\$8/child	_____

For More Information CALL 441-7895

Free Hikes

One hour naturalist-led hikes are offered for scouts each Saturday morning at 10:00 am. Call to register at least two weeks in advance. First-come, first-served.

Badgework

Our programs help your group complete a badge in one morning or afternoon. Badgework programs will rotate.

Water Everywhere Try-It for Brownie Scouts

Explore what lives in the Nature Center pond and stream. Learn the important place that water has in our lives and ways we can help conserve this precious resource. We will complete activities #1,4,5, and 6 for this Try-It.

Date: Saturday, October 2 Time: 9:30 - 11:30 am
 Location: PC Fee: \$5/scout, leaders free
 Registration deadline: September 29

Forester for Weblelos

Trees are an important part of our lives. With the help of Nature Center staff complete the Weblelo Forester Activity Badge fulfilling requirements 2, 3, 4, 6, and 9.

Time: 9:00 am - Noon Location: PC Fee: \$5/scout, leaders free
 Dates: Saturday, October 9 Registration deadline: October 6
 Saturday, October 16 Registration deadline: October 13
 60 scouts maximum for each date, 10 scouts minimum

Wildlife Badge for Junior Girl Scouts

There are animals all around us. We will observe some of their characteristics as we complete activities #3,4,5,7,8, and 9 to earn your wildlife badge.

Date: Saturday, November 13 Time: 9:00 am - Noon
 Location: PC Fee: \$5/scout, leaders free
 Registration deadline: November 10

**Be a part of Sunken Gardens history...
 Help Preserve Our National Treasure**

For a birthday...
 for an anniversary...
 or just because.

One Flower Forever allows everyone to give a gift that will forever honor a loved one and help preserve the Sunken Gardens. For a one-time donation of \$100, one flower will be planted in honor of someone special to you at Lincoln's Sunken Gardens and will be annually replanted (in the honored person's) name 'forever.'



All donors receive a thank you, a commemorative certificate suitable for framing that they can present to their honoree or honoree's family, and a flower lapel pin. Names of honorees will be recorded and permanently displayed at newly renovated gardens.

One Flower Forever is a way for people to honor a friend or loved one, in memory of a friend or loved one, or to celebrate events such as birthdays, anniversaries, or holidays, or a random act of kindness.

One Flower Forever will help fund the purchase, planting and maintenance of one annual flower each year in perpetuity. About 28,000 annuals are planted at the Sunken Gardens each year. All One Flower Forever funds will be placed in a Sunken Gardens endowment account. Fully funded some day in the future, this fund will generate enough money each year to insure the quality of this special place.

All donations to One Flower Forever are tax deductible as allowed by law. For more information, call: (402) 441-7847. Order forms for One Flower Forever are also available online at www.lincolnsunkengardens.com

One Flower Forever Order Form

Please use one form per order.

YES, I would like to participate in the One Flower Forever program and have a flower planted every year at the Sunken Gardens.

List the name of the person or event honored by this gift:

Brief Message: _____

(for example, In Memory of, Happy Mother's Day, etc.)

Please check if you'd like us to mail the certificate & lapel pin directly to the honoree or the honoree's family.

City State Zip

One Flower Forever donor information:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

PHONE _____

Please send your \$100 check or money order made payable to the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Foundation to:

One Flower Forever
 c/o Lincoln Parks and Recreation Foundation
 2740 "A" Street, Box 201
 Lincoln, NE 68502-3113